

specification and claims. Additionally, for example, new claim 38 finds support in now-cancelled claims 15 and 20, new claim 39 finds support in now-cancelled claims 15, 16 and 20, new claim 40 finds support in now-cancelled claims 15-17 and 20, new claim 41 finds support in now-cancelled claims 15-18 and 21, new claim 42 finds support in now-cancelled claims 15-17, 19 and 22, new claim 43 finds support in now-cancelled claims 23 and 28, new claim 44 finds support in now-cancelled claims 23, 24 and 28, new claim 45 finds support in now-cancelled claims 23-25 and 28, new claim 46 finds support in now-cancelled claims 23-26 and 29, new claim 47 finds support in now-cancelled claims 23-25, 27 and 30.

In light of the above, Applicant requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejections of claims 15-19, 23-29 and 31-37 and the objection to claims 20-22 and 28-30 as moot, enter new claims 38-47, and pass the case to allowance.

#### CONCLUSION

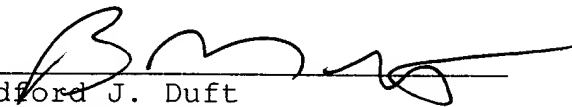
For the foregoing reasons, applicants submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance and seek an early Notice thereof. Should any issues or questions remain,

the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned so  
that they may be promptly resolved.

Respectfully submitted,

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By

  
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